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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, December 30, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended December 20 totaled an estimated 17.3 billion ton-miles, 1.7 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 51 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 868.4 billion ton-miles, 0.5 percent higher than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended December 20 totaled 383,430, up 0.3 percent from the corresponding week of last year, but 1.3 percent lower than the preceding week.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 11 of the 21 major commodity groups increased. Motor vehicles and equipment increased by 1,211 cars (6.5 percent). Fourteen of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended December 13 totaled 104,964 trailers and/or containers, 5.1 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 50 weeks of the year was 4,829,886 trailers and/or containers, up 9.0 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 12/20/86:

	Loadings in Week ended December 20, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	26,427	I	631	2.4	D	1,674	6.0
Other farm products	4,235	D	148	3.4	D	568	11.8
Metallic ores	9,853	D	778	7.3	D	530	5.1
Coal	118,999	D	2,117	1.7	I	872	0.7
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	10,130	I	781	8.4	D	1,663	14.1
Nonmetallic minerals	7,478	D	2,887	27.9	D	1,255	14.4
Grain mill products	11,079	I	1,066	10.6	D	265	2.3
Food and kindred products	10,795	D	31	0.3	D	542	4.8
Primary forest products	11,107	I	364	3.4	I	709	6.8
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,781	I	718	10.2	I	364	4.9
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,132	D	1,327	9.9	D	379	3.0
Chemicals and allied products	24,488	I	805	3.4	I	1,209	5.2
Petroleum products	4,462	D	200	4.3	I	275	6.6
Stone, clay and glass products	8,451	I	494	6.2	D	448	5.0
Coke	3,527	D	1,249	26.2	D	310	8.1
Metals and products	6,947	D	550	7.3	D	175	2.5
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,721	I	1,211	6.5	D	2,579	11.6
Waste and scrap materials	7,902	I	327	4.3	D	315	3.8
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	3,022	D	3,262	51.9	I	24	0.8
All other carloads	74,791	I	7,333	10.9	I	2,058	2.8
LCL traffic	103	I	5	5.1	D	19	15.6
Total Cars Loaded	383,430	I	1,186	0.3	D	5,211	1.3
Corresponding week of 1985	382,244						

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (51 weeks)	19,239,124	19,330,654	D 0.5
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
50 Weeks ended December 13	851.1	847.2	I 0.5
Week ended December 20	17.3	17.0	I 1.7
51 Weeks cumulative	868.4	864.2	I 0.5

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